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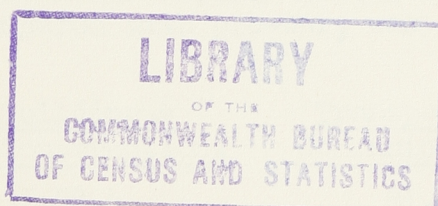
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B.S.E. 1950/8.

NEW SOUTH WALES.
DIGEST OF CURRENT STATISTICS.

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PART I. EMPLOYMENT AND NON-RURAL INDUSTRIES.

GENERAL.

Employment in New South Wales rose in August to the record total of 1,022,400 persons (excluding rural and domestics). Australia's population gain from immigration (now the chief source of new labour) during the first half of 1950 was about 83,000 persons, compared with 149,000 for the whole of 1949. Approximately half of these migrants become available for employment. New South Wales production of coal, iron & steel, electricity, bricks and cement in the first eight months of 1950 was the highest for that period since the war but the supply of these basic materials still falls short of the demand.

Seasonal factors account for a fall in trading bank deposits in August but the fall in savings deposits was larger than usual for that month. Some features of the monetary expansion and the growth in overseas reserves in recent years are noted on p. 91. Agricultural and pastoral statistics now available for the State for 1949-50 show that as a very favourable season with both the wool clip and wheat crop near record levels and livestock numbers nearly recovered from the 1944-47 drought; wholemilk production in 1949-50 also was the best for nine years.

EMPLOYMENT - New South Wales.

After a brief check in June and July employment in New South Wales rose again in August by 3,000 to the record total of 1,022,400, an increase of 17,200 in the first eight months of 1950 which matches the rate of increase (23,600 for the year) in 1949 but is less than in 1948 (32,200 for year).

Migration has been the chief source of new labour since 1948 (see table below). During August 1950 about 500 New Australians from displaced person camps entered employment in the State bringing the total placed since the inception of the scheme to 23,700 (18,700 men and 5,000 women). The men are mainly employed in the metal trades and other factories (about 4,800), building and construction (8,700) and rural work (1,400). Two-thirds of the women work as domestics and most of the remainder in textile and food factories.

WAGE & SALARY EARNERS - N.S.W., excluding rural workers and domestics in private households - in thousands.

	<u>Employment.</u>			<u>Change on previous month.</u>		
	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1939 - July	529.9	168.0	697.9			
1945 - July	542.0	248.1	790.1			
1949 - May	721.4	269.9	991.3	+ 3.5	+ 0.9	+ 4.4
1950 - March	736.7	278.7	1015.4	+ 1.6	+ 2.6	+ 4.2
April	737.0	277.5	1014.5	+ 0.3	- 1.2	- 0.9
May	740.7	279.6	1020.3	+ 3.7	+ 2.1	+ 5.8
June	740.8	278.5	1019.3	+ 0.1	- 1.1	- 1.0
July	740.4	279.0	1019.4	- 0.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.1
August	742.8	279.6	1022.4	+ 2.4	+ 0.6	+ 3.0

Employment in factories, building and construction and transport has continued to expand during the current year; in August 1950 it was 5%, 12% and 7% respectively above August 1948. Retail staffs remained fairly steady and their expansion, compared with pre-war, was smaller than in the other groups.

<u>Thousands.</u>	<u>Factories.</u>	<u>Building & Construction.</u>	<u>Transport & Communications.</u>	<u>Retail Trade.</u>
1939 - July	218.1	58.4	81.6	80.0
1948 - August	357.1	62.7	121.2	92.4
1949 - May	363.0	65.8	125.6	93.6
1950 - May	373.7	69.3	129.3	94.4
June	374.4	69.2	129.7	94.0
July	373.8	69.4	130.0	94.0
August	375.4	70.4	129.8	94.3

Factory employment rose by 5 per cent, that is an average of 750 persons a month during the past two years. Comparatively large increases were recorded in the metal trades and chemical industries, where employment is now more than double that of July, 1939, and also in the brick, cement, glass group and paper and printing works which lost staff during the war years but have since re-expanded. Staff cuts in clothing and furniture factories during last year's coal stoppage were not fully restored and employment in these two groups is now a little less than two years ago, though still over 50% more than pre-war. Female factory employment rose in the past two years at about the same rate as male employment. The proportion of women in total factory employment in August 1950 was 26% as against 27% in July 1939 and 28% in July, 1945.

FACTORY EMPLOYEES - New South Wales - (excluding working proprietors).

Factory Class.	1939	1945	1948	1950	PERCENTAGE INCREASE			
	July	July	Aug.	Aug.	July '39	July '45	Aug. '48	July '39
					July '45	Aug. '48	Aug. '50	Aug. '50
In thousands								
Bricks, cement, glass, etc.	12.3	10.4	16.0	17.8	-15%	54%	11%	44%
Chemicals, Oils, Paints, etc.	8.0	12.3	15.2	16.3	54%	24%	7%	104%
Metal trades (incl. vehicles)	81.3	143.7	151.3	163.1	77%	5%	8%	101%
Textiles & Knitted Goods	14.7	17.8	21.8	22.7	21%	22%	4%	54%
Clothing & Footwear	29.1	33.4	45.6	45.1	15%	37%	-1%	55%
Food, Drink & Tobacco	26.4	32.5	35.6	36.7	23%	9%	3%	39%
Sawmills, woodwork, furniture	14.4	16.5	23.0	22.6	15%	39%	-2%	57%
Paper, printing, etc.	16.4	15.7	20.7	22.3	-4%	32%	8%	36%
Other Factories	15.5	20.0	27.9	28.8	29%	40%	3%	86%
All Factories - Men	158.8	216.6	265.4	277.8	36%	23%	5%	75%
Women	59.3	85.7	91.7	97.6	45%	7%	6%	65%
Total	218.1	302.3	357.1	375.4	39%	18%	5%	72%

OVERSEA MIGRATION.

The net gain from migration for Australia in the first half of 1950 was 83,000 (about a third of whom went to New South Wales), that is nearly twice the number of the first half of 1949.

	Net Migration - AUSTRALIA (1)			Net Migration - N.S.W. (Persons)		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Oversea.	Interstate.	Balance.
Year - 1947	7,497	4,689	12,186	3,615	- 4,041	- 426
1948	27,358	21,110	48,468	28,555	- 10,624	17,931
1949	87,855	61,415	149,270	66,163	7,980	74,143
Jan.-June 1950	50,625	32,442	83,067	27,793	n.a.	n.a.

(1) Excess of permanent arrivals over departures.

Approximately one half of the new arrivals in Australia in 1949 and early 1950 were likely to seek employment or start in business, the balance being children, housewives etc. The main occupations of permanent arrivals in the 18 months ended June, 1950 were stated to be as follows:-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Rural, Fishing & Hunting	20,347	1,506	21,853
Craftsmen, Operatives, Labourers	68,175	7,162	75,337
Commercial & Clerical	10,242	6,973	17,215
Professional	5,169	5,108	10,277
Not gainfully occupied -			
Children & Students	33,116	30,222	63,338
Other (incl. housewives)	1,762	50,941	52,703
Other (incl. not stated)	13,127	7,559	20,686
TOTAL	151,938	109,471	261,409

GAS AND ELECTRICITY - New South Wales & Sydney.

Production of gas in New South Wales in August 1950 (1,768 mill. cub. ft.) was a record and electricity generation was only a little below the peak reached in July. The seasonally adjusted index for gas and electricity consumption in Sydney in August was 9% higher than in July and about 90% above the pre-war average.

	<u>PRODUCTION - New South Wales.</u>		<u>CONSUMPTION - Sydney Index</u>
	<u>Gas.</u>	<u>Electricity.</u>	<u>(Seas. Adj.) Gas & Electricity.</u>
	<u>mill. cub. ft.</u>	<u>mill. KWh.</u>	<u>1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100</u>
1938-39	10,896	1,948	104
1948-49	18,151	3,718	179
1949-50	18,031	3,756	178
1947 - August	1,703	311	172
1949 - August	1,370	262	141
1950 - June	1,702	380	188
July	1,607	385	174
August	1,768	381	190

IRON AND STEEL - New South Wales.

Iron and steel output in August recovered from the low level of July. Progress figures for the eight months ended August were about 12% higher than for 1947 and 1948 but irregular coal supplies continue to limit production which remains well below the level of the early war years. Pig iron output in Whyalla, S.A., most of which is shipped to New South Wales, has been comparatively small this year.

<u>Thousand tons.</u>	<u>Month of 1950--</u>			<u>Eight Months ended August -</u>			
	<u>June.</u>	<u>July.</u>	<u>August.</u>	<u>1947.</u>	<u>1948.</u>	<u>1949.</u>	<u>1950.</u>
Metallurg. Coke, N.S.W.	127	122	134	n.a.	n.a.	603	823
Pig Iron, N.S.W.	100	88	104	638	647	509	733
Pig Iron, Whyalla, S.A.	14	15	16	138	135	49	86
Ingot Steel, N.S.W.	122	104	125	791	816	609	907

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES - New South Wales.

Dispute loss^{es} in New South Wales coal mines in August totalled 28,000 man-working days, about the same as the average of the preceding seven months. Stoppages at A.C.I. (over a demand for higher wage margins), at the Sydney and Newcastle waterfront and a number of smaller disputes caused the loss of 36,000 man-working days in other industries. So far this year dispute losses in both mining and non-mining industries have been rather less than in recent years.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES - New South Wales - Thousand Man-Days Lost.

	<u>August 1948.</u>	<u>May 1950.</u>	<u>June 1950.</u>	<u>July 1950.</u>	<u>August 1950.</u>
Coal Mines	26	30	19	16	28
Other Employment	12	11	21	15	36
TOTAL	38	41	40	31	64

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS.

Flood conditions affected railway traffic and earnings in July and August 1950 while working expenses continued to rise. There was a deficiency on working account of £306,000 in July which was reduced by a small surplus in August to £252,000. In other recent years (excepting the strike period of 1949) these two months yielded a surplus of from £500,000 to £1 mill.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Two months ended August</u>					<u>Month of August</u>	
	<u>Passenger Journeys</u>	<u>Goods (excl. Livestock)</u>	<u>Gross Earnings</u>	<u>Working Expenses</u>	<u>Net (a) Earnings</u>	<u>Passenger Journeys</u>	<u>Goods (excl. Livestock)</u>
	<u>Millions</u>	<u>Mill. tons</u>	<u>£mill.</u>	<u>£mill.</u>	<u>£mill.</u>	<u>Millions</u>	<u>Mill. tons</u>
1938	31.4	2.60	3.12	2.36	0.76	15.8	1.23
1948	43.6	3.05	6.27	5.35	0.92	23.1	1.55
1949	36.0	1.28	3.70	5.06	- 1.36	20.2	0.92
1950	44.8	2.97	6.97	7.22	- 0.25	22.0	1.60

(a) Excess of gross earnings over working expenses; excluding Government contribution £800,000 for developmental lines.

Rail fares in country areas and the price of certain suburban concession tickets will be raised by 12½% as from 1st November and rail freights from 16% to 40% as from 16th October, 1950.

MOTOR VEHICLES - Registrations in New South Wales.

During the first eight months of 1950 33,488 new motor cars were registered in this State, about twice as many as in the same period of 1949, and registrations of new commercial vehicles rose correspondingly. At the end of August 1950 the number of cars (277,295) and lorries etc. (163,035) on the State register was 17% and 15% respectively higher than a year previously. Taking the principal types of motor vehicles together the total on the register in August 1950 was 52% greater than at outbreak of war.

REGISTRATIONS OF MOTOR VEHICLES - New South Wales.

Period.	New Vehicles Registered		Civilian Vehicles on Register			
	Cars	Lorries Utilities and Vans.	Cars.	Buses, Taxis and Hire Cars.	Lorries Utilities & Vans.	Total of Foregoing.
	Monthly Average or Month		As at End of Period (30th June)			
Av.1937-1939	1,764	763	213,331	4,708	76,726	294,765
1949	2,122	973	232,837	6,509	140,338	379,684
1949 - August	2,163	1,112	236,096	6,507	142,113	384,716
1950 - July	4,541	2,097	273,286	7,047	160,964	441,297
- August	4,715	2,499	277,295	7,170	163,035	447,500
% - Increase:						
June 1939-Aug.1950	167%	228%	30%	52%	11¾%	52%
Aug. 1949-Aug.1950	108%	125%	17%	10%	15%	16%

COAL PRODUCTION - New South Wales.

Coal output for the 40 weeks ended 7th October, 1950, 9.66 mill. tons, was the highest recorded for that period. The rate of output from under-ground mines was 9% higher in the record year of 1942, but production from open-cuts has made great progress and contributed 12% of the total in 1950. Industrial stoppages for the first 32 weeks of the year were estimated by the Joint Coal Board as causing the loss of 9% of possible production, as compared with 21% for the year 1949, 14% for 1948 and 11½% for 1947; however stoppages due to other causes (floods, transport dislocation etc.), equivalent to 7% of possible production in the 1950 period were heavier than in recent years.

PRODUCTION OF COAL - New South Wales - in thousand tons.

	Year ended December -			40 weeks ended -			
	1947	1948	1949	3/10.1942	9/10/1948	5/10/1949	7/10/1950
Underground	10,724	10,467	9,386	9,382	5,077	6,735	8,482 x
Open-cut	959	1,254	1,351	.	984	966	1,180 x
TOTAL	11,683	11,721	10,737	9,352	9,001	7,751	9,662 x

x. Preliminary.

PART II - FINANCE AND TRADE.

BANKING - GENERAL.

The table below indicates the extent of monetary expansion in Australia in recent years. The growth in international reserves, mainly through capital inflow, was the major source of new funds in the past three years but increases in bank loans also played a large part; of the latter the increase in advances by the trading departments of the Commonwealth Bank alone accounted for about a third of the rise. The Treasury bill issue was reduced by £170 mill. in the three years but this was partly compensated by higher bond holdings, in particular those held by the savings banks. Most of the new funds accrued on current account with the banks; savings bank deposits rose to a lesser extent and there was also a small rise in the note issue. Taking notes and deposits together, the rate of growth has accelerated from 6% in 1947-48 to 10% in 1948-49 and 15% in 1949-50.

SOME SOURCES AND USES OF BANKING FUNDS - Australia - £million.

	As in June				Increase June to June			
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1946-7	1947-8	1948-9	1949-50
(1) International Reserves	199	274	452	650	-16	75	178	198
(2) Bank Advances	352	425	483	574	82	73	58	91
(3) Public Securities	1148	1109	1050	1078	-58	-39	-59	28
Total Change 1, 2, and 3					8	109	177	317
(4) Notes held by Public	184	174	189	203	2	-10	15	14
(5) Deposits - Savings Banks	660	681	714	762	-4	21	33	48
(6) Deposits - Other Banks	723	800	915	1132	24	77	115	220
Total Change 4, 5, and 6					22	88	163	282

(1) All Banks, as shown in Commonwealth Bank Report. (2) All cheque-paying banks; Increases include £9m. in 1949 and £3m. in 1950 to allow for statistical adjustments. (3) Incl. Savings Banks but exclude securities held overseas, contained in (1); 1950 figures are estimated. (5) See note to (2).

NOTE: Figures do not balance as some items omitted. Also some are June average and some for end of June.

COMMONWEALTH BANK - Central Banking Business.

International reserves, as shown above, rose by £451 mill. between June 1947 and 1950 which seems to have been solely due to capital inflow, estimated in the Commonwealth Bank's Annual Report at £150 mill. long-term investments (for the last four years) plus up to £300 mill. short-term funds placed here partly in expectation of a currency revaluation. The export surplus during the past four years was only sufficient to cover interest and other overseas charges, a small surplus on current account in 1947-48 and 1948-49 cancelling deficiencies in 1946-47 and 1949-50. "International Reserves" exceeded "Gold & Balances Abroad" as shown in the Central Bank return by £60 mill. in June 1949 and by £131 mill. in 1950; the reason is that they consist partly of British securities (£31 mill. in 1949) and they are partly held by the trading banks.

Credit expansion engendered by the growth in overseas reserves has been partly offset by the absorption of trading bank deposits on Special Accounts with the Commonwealth Bank which rose by £143 mill. between September 1949 and 1950. On the other hand, trading banks used temporary accommodation facilities granted by the Central Bank, as indicated by the rise in "other assets" from £28 mill. to £62 mill. The note issue which had been fairly steady at £200 mill. in 1946-48 increased by £18 mill. in 1948-49 and a further £21 mill. in 1949-50. This however is not a large increase when compared with the upward trend in bank money and prices over the past two years.

COMMONWEALTH BANK - CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS, including Note Issue. (£ millions).

Last Week of September	Notes on Issue held by			Trading Banks.		Other Li- abilities (a)	Gold & Bal'ces. abroad.	Govt. & Other Sec. urities	Other Assets (b)
	Public	Banks.	Total	Special	Other				
				A/c.	Dep'ts.				
1945	170	16	186	222	30	143	160	418	7
1946	180	17	197	253	25	134	217	392	3
1947	177	23	200	238	29	120	176	405	7
1948	173	24	197	268	36	159	292	345	27
1949	189	26	215	309	34	207	378	362	28
1950	n.a.	n.a.	236	452	37	205	532	338	62

(a) Excluding capital and reserve funds. (b) Excluding coins and bills held.

PRINCIPAL TRADING BANKS - Australia.

Between April and August 1950 current deposits of the principal trading banks dropped by about £40 mill., which corresponds (proportionally) to the seasonal movement of earlier years:

	Current Deposits.		Decrease.	
	£m.	£m.	£m.	
1939	April 122.2	August 115.4	6.8	(5.5%)
1948	April 508.7	August 489.1	19.6	(3.9%)
1949	April 612.2	August 581.5	30.7	(5.0%)
1950	April 779.4	August 739.1	40.3	(5.2%)

Advances to customers continued to rise steadily and reached a new peak of £444 mill. in August, that is £54 mill. more than a year previously. In June and July £36 mill. was released from Special Accounts presumably to meet seasonal demands, but they rose by £11 mill. in August. The banks obtained additional funds during the month by reducing their holdings of Treasury bills and other Government securities and through short-term accommodation from the Commonwealth Bank, as shown by a rise in "Balances due to other Banks".

PRINCIPAL TRADING BANKS - Business within Australia - £ million.

Month (Weekly averages).	Customers' Deposits.			Balances due to Other Banks.	Advances to Custom- ers.(a)	Public Secur- ities	Special A/c.with C'wth. Bank.	Treas- ury Bills	Cash Items
	Interest Bearing.	Current (a)	Total.						
1939-August	199	116	315	1	294	22	.	19	31
1947-August	202	426	628	3	308	76	240	11	41
1948-August	199	489	688	34	362	60	272	12	46
1949-April	219	612	831	34	373	64	379	19	45
-August	213	578	791	46	390	73	326	13	47
1950-April	239	779	1018	41	415	95	457	29	54
-July	245	753	998	37	441	99	430	23	49
-August	244	739	983	45	444	97	441	16	52

(a) Following technical adjustments in bank returns, deposits and advances were reduced by £9 mill. as from January, 1949, and a further £3 mill. in July, 1949.

COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK - New South Wales.

Savings activity in recent years has often shown a small seasonal decline in August but the net fall in deposits in August 1950 (£1 mill.) was rather larger than usual. Total deposits at the end of August, £259 mill., were still £13 mill. higher than a year earlier. The total (war) savings certificates outstanding in this State fell during the year at the rate of about £200,000 a month from £24.6 mill. to £21.9 mill.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (£ million).

Period.	New South Wales.				Total Deposits End of Period	
	Deposits Lodged.	Withdrawals Made.	Net Increase or Decrease (-)	Interest Added.	N.S.W.	Australia.
1938-39 July-June	66.6	67.2	(-) 0.6	1.6	87.5	245.6
1947-48 July-June	167.9	159.3	1.6	4.0	237.0	681.3
1948-49 July-June	171.6	168.2	3.4	4.1	244.5	714.2
1949-50 July-June	201.5	191.3	10.2	4.2	258.9	762.1
1948 - August	13.4	13.8	(-) 0.4		236.9	683.6
1949 - August	14.9	15.0	(-) 0.1		246.0	721.4
1950 - July	18.2	17.1	1.1		260.0	763.9
- August	17.8	18.8	(-) 1.0		259.0	762.4

Savings bank deposits in Victoria, South and Western Australia also fell in August and the total for Australia, £762.4 mill., was £1½ mill. below the July peak.

INTER-BANK CLEARINGS - Sydney.

Cheque turnovers continue to increase rapidly. In the first nine months of 1950 they were about a third higher in value than in 1949, as against a rise of 15% for the year 1949 over 1948. This is indicative of the upward trend in business turnovers, prices and incomes and the consequent monetary expansion.

INTER-BANK CHEQUE CLEARINGS - Sydney (s).

Period.	1939	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	% Increase on previous year.			
							1947	1948	1949	1950
			£ millions							
March Quarter	222	389	459	545	634	874	18%	19%	16%	38%
June Quarter	233	448	540	663	770	924	21%	23%	16%	20%
September Quarter	221	486	518	655	719	932	7%	26%	10%	30%
December Quarter	256	503	587	715	850		17%	22%	19%	
Year	932	1,826	2,104	2,578	2,973		15%	22%	15%	

(a) Excluding Government transactions.

SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE.

After a brief lull in June and early July the upward trend in share prices was resumed in August and September, and new record levels were reached for the main share groups. The index for 75 companies rose during the two months by 6% and was then about a third higher than in December when the principal wartime restrictions on share trading were lifted.

INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - Sydney (Compiled by N.S.W. Govt. Statistician).

Month.	Manufact'g & Distributing	Retail	Public Utilities	Pastoral Finance	Insurance	Total 75 Companies	34 Active Shares.
1939 - August	212.6	168.2	156.0	118.2	263.9	174.4	181.9
1942 - March	173.0	138.3	120.8	110.3	213.7	140.6	147.0
1946 - December	292.4	251.6	197.3	160.7	322.5	229.7	247.2
1948 - January	361.4	315.5	184.7	191.7	407.8	271.5	283.7
1949 - July	323.6	271.4	153.5	173.5	456.1	239.7	244.2
1950 - June	399.3	318.7	155.3	227.4	576.7	293.6	297.5
- July	390.0	320.9	153.9	219.9	579.0	289.1	292.0
- August	402.0	323.8	158.5	234.9	595.7	296.9	303.3
- September	419.1	330.4	157.2	254.3	601.6	306.4	310.4

(Regulations restricting trading and price movements in company shares, imposed in February, 1942, with subsequent amendments, were rescinded in January, 1947).

Compilations made by the Sydney Morning Herald show that new share issues in Australia continue to rise. In the first nine months of 1950 247 companies made issues totalling £43 mill., as compared with 204 companies and £35 mill. in the same period of 1949. Since capital issue controls were lifted early this year 57 companies have made bonus issues totalling about £5 mill. while last year only five companies were permitted to make such issues.

RETAIL TRADE (Large Sydney Stores).

The value of retail sales in July 1950 shows a considerable increase over July 1949 (31%) but in that month sales were considerably reduced through coal strike. Comparing 1950 with 1948, turnovers in the first six months of the year rose by 17% and in July by 12%. These increases are well below rises in the clothing price index of 31% ("C" series, Sydney) between June quarters 1948 and 1950. Stock values in retail stores have increased only very slowly since 1949. At the end of August 1950 they were 11% higher than two years previously.

RETAIL TRADE - LARGE SYDNEY STORES.

Percentage increase or decrease (-) on corresponding period of previous year								
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1947	1948	1949	1950
	VALUE OF SALES				VALUE OF STOCKS (End of Period)			
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
March Quarter	15	20	17	9	39	26	9	4
June Quarter	19	19	6	10	38	27	7	6
July	24	30	(-) 16	31	30	19	9	2
7 Months	16	21	7	12 (7mths)	37	26	8	4 (7mths.)

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS.

State expenditure for July-August 1950 (£16.60 m.) exceeded revenue by £150,000, as against a revenue surplus of £1.05 mill. for the two months of 1949. Commonwealth tax reimbursements, tax and other Governmental receipts were £1.41 m. higher in 1950, but departmental expenditure rose by £490,000 and £1.90 m. more were required on railway account.

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS (£ millions).

Revenue Item.	Year		July-Aug.		Expenditure Item.	Year		July-Aug.	
	1949-50	1950-1	1949	1950		1949-50	1950-1	1949	1950
From Commonwealth ^x	28.4	33.4	3.4	3.9	Net Debt Charges	15.8	16.5	2.1	2.2
State Taxation	11.8	12.5	1.9	2.5	Other excl. Debt Charges -				
Other Governmental	14.0	14.4	1.6	1.9	Governmental	44.9	49.0	5.6	6.1
Railways xx	43.9	51.3	6.7	6.5	Railways	38.8	46.4	5.0	6.9
Tram & Bus Services	9.3	10.8	1.5	1.5	Tram & Bus Services	9.8	11.3	1.4	1.4
Sydney Harbour	1.7	1.7	.3	.3	Sydney Harbour	1.0	1.1	.2	.2
TOTAL REVENUE	109.1	124.1	15.4	16.6	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	110.3	124.3	14.3	16.8

x. Reimbursement of taxes and payments towards interest. xx Includes Commonwealth strike grant of £3 m. for railways and £200,000 for trams and buses in 1949-50.

/ Budget proposals for 1950-51 (not yet enacted).

Budget proposals for the year 1950-51 now before Parliament provide for an increase of £15 mill. in revenue (to a total of £124.1 m.) and of £14 m. in expenditure (£124.3 m.), leaving a deficiency of £224,000 for the year as against one of £1.18 mill. for 1949-50. In the consolidated revenue fund tax reimbursements are expected to rise by £5m. and other revenue by about £1m. (mainly in stamp duties), while £4.7m. more is budgeted for debt charges and departmental expenditure. The largest expenditure items are Education, budgeted at £15.2 m. (£13.4 m. in 1949-50) and Health with £11.8 m. (£11.3m.) The proposed increases in rail fares and freights are expected to yield an additional £9. 2m. per annum; they will only operate for portion of the current year and a deficiency of £3 m. on railway account (incl. debt charges) is anticipated. The month's increases in tram and bus fares are intended to bring in £1.6 m. in a full year and £1.1 m. in the remainder of 1950-51 for which a deficiency of £914,000 (incl. debt charges) has been budgeted.

COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTS.

Higher yield from the major tax sources and the Post Office raised Commonwealth revenue in September quarter from £114.9 mill. in 1949 to £126.7 mill. in 1950. Expenditure rose more, by £23.7 mill. to £132.8 mill., the principal increases were in Capital Works & Services (from £8.2 m. to £21.9 m.) and in Child Endowment payments (from £6.4m. to £9.6 m.) In 1947, 1948 and 1949 the September quarter yielded revenue surpluses of £13.5 m., £22.9m., and £5.8m. which were credited to loan funds, while in 1950 an excess in expenditure of £6.16m. was debited to loan account.

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS (£ millions).

Revenue				Expenditure			
Item.	September Quarter			Item.	September Quarter		
	1948	1949	1950		1948	1949	1950
Customs & Excise	30.5	32.5	38.9	Social Services(1)	17.2	22.0	24.6
Sales Tax	9.7	9.9	11.5	States:Tax Reimb.	8.9	11.0	12.4
Income Tax & S.S.C.	57.4	52.1	53.5	Other	5.2	6.1	7.3
Pay Roll Tax	4.7	5.2	6.5	P.M.G. & Broadcast'g.(2)	8.0	9.7	12.0
Entertainment Tax	1.2	1.3	1.1	Defence		8.7	10.3
Other Taxes	1.5	2.2	1.7	War & Repat.(3)		40.6	15.0
Total Taxation	105.0	103.2	113.2	Debt Charges		15.9	16.4
P.M.G. & Broadcasting	8.0	8.9	10.5	Capital Works	3.4	8.2	21.9
Other Revenue	2.6	2.8	3.0	Other Expenditure	9.4	12.5	13.1
TOTAL REVENUE (4)	115.6	114.9	126.7	TOTAL EXPENDITURE(4)	92.7	109.1	132.8

(1) Actual expenditure from National Welfare Fund. (2) Excluding debt charges.

(3) Excludes credits to loan fund £22.9 m. in 1949 and £5.8m. in 1949, but includes £6.1m. charges to loan fund in 1950. (4) Excluding self-balancing items.

Revenue surplus and loan monies have been used to reduce the Treasury bill circulation in Australia from the peak of £400m. in February, 1946 to £173m. in September, 1948, £113m. in 1949 and £88m. in 1950.

PART III - RURAL INDUSTRIES.

THE SEASON.

Rainfall in August and September, in contrast to excesses in the preceding seven months, were on the whole near the seasonal average. Frequent light falls were recorded and temperatures were generally above normal. Except in flood areas the condition of pastures is satisfactory, and the outlook for winter sown crops is favourable.

RAINFALL INDEX - NEW SOUTH WALES "Normal Rainfall" = 100 for each Month and Year.

	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Coastal Dairying Districts.			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	Total	N.	C.	S.	Total	N.	C.	S.	Total.
1948-Year	102	103	99	92	101	98	100	96	97	106	95	96	102
1949-Year	126	112	110	129	117	126	113	110	113	107	147	129	120
1950-Mar.	70	286	437	371	283	50	286	445	354	85	56	340	110
Apr.	236	252	141	168	202	302	238	121	174	138	145	285	159
May	101	113	118	117	112	117	122	107	112	36	101	209	75
June	276	217	89	161	186	235	224	90	143	477	561	306	476
July	365	248	143	307	253	325	230	143	188	476	304	210	398
Aug.	71	121	84	42	86	72	132	79	92	207	205	104	193
Sept.	130	141	94	72	115	109	135	95	107	79	108	106	90

N. Northern: C. Central: S. Southern: W. Western.

WHEAT.

The 1949-50 wheat crop in New South Wales matured and was harvested under very favourable conditions. The acreage sown to grain was smaller than in the three preceding years but the average yield was exceptionally high, and the crop of 82 mill.bus. was the second largest ever gathered in the State; last year the crop was 65 mill.bus. and the record was 95 mill. bus. in 1947-48. Excepting extreme seasons, the crops have usually been between 45 mill. and 60 mill. bus. in recent years. The average yield per acre of 20.4 bus. in 1949-50 compares with the previous record of 18.9 bus. for 1947-48 and between 12 and 17 bus. in other good seasons. The average yield in 1949-50 was heaviest in the Northern and Central districts (23 bus. and 21 bus.); in the Southern areas it was 18.7 bus. Early reports indicate that for the current crop (1950-51) prospects are better in the Southern areas where winter rains have not been much above normal. In the North (which normally has most rainfall in summer) and Central districts soil preparation and sowing have been greatly hampered by the heavy winter falls but for such crops as were sown the weather was favourable in August and September. In returns collected in April and May 1950 farmers in New South Wales indicated their intention of sowing 3.81 mill. bus. to grain for the coming harvest but subsequent rains may have reduced that area. The area planted and the yield for wheat or hay decreased again in 1949-50 when only 163,000 tons were cut as against 187,000 tons in 1947-48.

WHEAT - AREA, PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS, New South Wales.

Season.	Area under Wheat (a)				Yield			O'sea Exports (b) Wheat & Flour from N.S.W. mill.bushels
	For Grain	For Hay	Feed- off	Total	Total	Grain Av. per acre	Hay Total	
	Million acres				Mill. bush.	bushels	000 tons	
1938-39	4.65	0.56	0.04	5.25	59.89	12.9	612	28.96
1939-40	4.38	0.26	0.04	4.68	76.55	17.5	373	36.60
1946-47	4.47	0.26	0.04	4.77	15.6	3.5	145	7.7
1947-48	5.04	0.28	0.03	5.35	95.23	18.9	414	53.7
1948-49	4.04	0.16	0.04	4.24	64.70	16.0	187	39.68
1949-50	4.01	0.12	0.04	4.17	81.94	20.4	163	24.27(c)

(a) Incl. area to be sown for green feed. (b) Wheat equivalent, calendar year after harvest. (c) Eight months ended August, 1950.

Advance payments to date on the 1949-50 crop amount to 8s6 6d. per bus. bagged and on the 1948-49 crop 10s. 6d. per bus. bagged.

LIVESTOCK - New South Wales.

Sheep numbers in New South Wales increased by 10.2 mill. to 53.3 mill. between 1947 and 1950 (as at end of March) and so regained part of the 14 million lost during the 1944-47 drought period. The highest recorded sheep numbers for this State were 61.8 mill. in 1891 and 56-57 mill. in 1941-43. Lambs marked in 1949-50, 13.3 mill. or 69% of ewe matings, were 500,000 less than in 1948-49. Early estimates for the 1950-51 season anticipate matings of 20.5 mill. ewes, as against 19.2 mill. ewes in 1949-50.

The number of cows and heifers in registered dairies showed a steady decline from 1.06 mill. in 1942 to 965,000 in 1948 but partly recovered in 1949 and 1950 to 981,000. Between 1931 and 1945 the figure had regularly exceeded the million mark. The number of milking cows not in registered dairies has risen considerably in recent years, from 118,000 in 1946 to 158,000 in 1950. Expansion of beef cattle raising is reflected in the increase in cattle numbers from 1.7 mill. in 1947 to 2.1 mill. in 1950; calvings in the current season are expected to exceed those of last year considerably. The increase in pigs of 1947-49 was not maintained in 1950, and the downward trend in the number of horses continued.

LIVESTOCK IN NEW SOUTH WALES (in thousands)

At 31st March.	Sheep.	Cattle.		Pigs.	Horses.
		Dairy Cows (a)	Other (b)		
1929 (30th June)	50,185	941	1,844	312	567
1939	48,877	1,069	1,743	377	531
1944	56,837	1,043	2,100	561	466
1947	43,105	968	2,015	358	380
1948	46,065	965	2,165	365	376
1949	50,404	971	2,282	375	358
1950	53,298	981	2,459	333	342

(a) Cows and heifers in registered dairies only.

(b) Beef cattle, calves and bulls in registered dairies, and cows not in registered dairies; details for 1950: 2,115,000, 162,000, 24,000 and 158,000 respectively.

DAIRYING.

Damage to pastures and stock losses caused by the heavy winter rains in the Northern dairy districts caused a more than seasonal decline in dairy output in July and August. More recently the weather has been more favourable and production is increasing.

Butter output in July and August totalled 6.2 mill. lbs. in 1950 compared with 6.5 mill. lbs. in 1949.

PRODUCTION OF BUTTER IN FACTORIES, New South Wales. (in million lbs.)

Period.	Average 1937-38 to 1939-40	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51
July and August	10.42	5.40	5.84	6.14	6.47	6.19
Sept. to June	103.51	54.98	70.23	68.38	76.00	.
Year	113.93	60.38	76.07	74.52	82.47	.

Milk supplies to the Milk Board fell off at the end of June because of flood conditions. For the year 1949-50 (52 weeks ended June 30th) they totalled 49.03 mill. gall. of whole milk (including cream equivalent) for Sydney and 8.14 mill. gall. for other areas (Newcastle, Wollongong, Erina and Blue Mountains), a small rise on 1948-49. In 1938-39 only 27.41 mill. gall. were supplied to Sydney and 1.85 mill. gall. to Newcastle. Milk Board deliveries in 1949-50 amounted to about 19% of total whole milk production as against 9% in 1938-39.

MILK SUPPLIES TO NEW SOUTH WALES MILK BOARD - million gallons.

Whole Milk and Milk Equivalent of Sweet Cream.		52 Weeks ended in June -				
		1939	1947	1948	1949	1950
Sydney	...	27.41	48.61	47.96	49.05	49.03
Other Areas (a)	...	1.85	5.86	6.69	7.44	8.14
TOTAL	...	29.26	54.47	54.65	56.49	57.17

(a) Newcastle from inception; Wollongong and Erina from January, 1947 and Blue Mountains from November, 1947.

Whole milk output for all purposes in New South Wales for 1949-50 is estimated at 307 mill. gallons, compared with 292 mill. gallons in 1948-49. Milk production in the State reached a peak of 369 mill. gallons in 1933-34 but was down to 311 mill. gallons in 1938-39 and fell to 254 mill. gallons in the drought season of 1946-47. Australian production of whole milk rose from 1,212 mill. gallons in 1948-49 to 1,254 mill. gallons in 1949-50, that is 67 mill. gallons more than in 1938-39. Use of milk for butter (factory and farm) in 1949-50 is estimated at 817 mill. gallons (65% of the total) as against 781 mill. gallons in 1948-49 and 925 mill. gallons (78% of the total) in 1938-39.

WHOLE MILK PRODUCTION - New South Wales & Australia - mill. gallons.

	1938-39	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50
New South Wales	311	279	254	295	292	307
Other States	778	798	826	878	920	947
Australia	1,189	1,077	1,080	1,173	1,212	1,254

WOOL.

With the recovery in sheep numbers and comparatively high wool yields per sheep the State's wool clip rose to 515 mill. lbs. (as in grease) in 1949-50, that is 11% more than in 1948-49 and the greatest for six years. During the 1930's the clip was between 427 mill. lbs. and 504 mill. lbs. a year and during the war it attained a peak of 547 mill. lbs. The value of the clip, as at Sydney) reached the record figure of £133 mill. in 1949-50 45% above the previous peak of 1948-49 and about five times the pre-war average.

SHEEP SHORN AND WOOL PRODUCED, New South Wales.

Average per Season.	Sheep & Lambs Shorn. Millions	Average Clip per Sheep. lbs.	Total Shorn Wool Million lbs.	Total Wool Produced (a)	
				Greasy Weight. Million lbs.	Value at Sydney £ million.
1931-1935	53.7	8.2	438.6	488.1	20.7
1936-1940	54.4	8.2	445.2	490.9	27.3
1941-1945	56.7	8.2	463.9	513.5	28.3
1946-1947	43.1	8.9	383.7	432.6	42.5
1947-1948	43.7	8.7	382.1	422.3	66.7
1948-1949	48.1	8.8	422.6	463.2	90.3
1949-1950	53.6	8.8	470.0	515.0	132.6

(a) Includes dead wool, fellmongered wool and wool exported on skins.

Flood conditions in July and August delayed shearing and transport and the total wool received at Sydney, Goulburn and Newcastle stores in the two months, 147,000 bales, was considerably less than receipts in previous years (254,000 bales in 1949). Sales re-opened in August and greatly enhanced prices prevailed during the first month. The average prices (greasy) in New South Wales (full-clip equivalents) of 114½d. per lb. in August and 118d. in September compare with an opening price of 45d. last September and an average of 61.8d. for the whole 1949-50 season.

AVERAGE PRICE OF GREASY WOOL - NEW SOUTH WALES - Pence per lb. greasy.

Season ended 30th June	d. per lb.	Month (a)	d. per lb.
1939	10.3	1947 September	32.5
1947	23.6	1949 September	45.0
1948	37.9	1950 June	78.5
1949	46.3	August	114.5
1950	61.8	September	118.0

(a) Average that would be realised if whole clip were sold at price level of that month.

The table below shows wool exports from Australia for the twelve months ended August, 1950, that is for the period during which the main portion of the 1949-50 clip was shipped, compared with corresponding periods of previous years. The destinations shown give only an approximate indication of the final consumer as some wool may be reconsigned from the original destinations. Shipments from Australia in the 1949-50 period were 4% greater than in 1948-49 and their value increased by 41% to the record figure of £325 mill. Shipments to the United Kingdom (which include a certain proportion of J.O. stock wool) were about the same as last year, and their value was equivalent to 36% of the total (37% in 1948-49 and 41% in 1936-39). The United States, with 165 mill. lbs (twice as much as in 1948-49) became the second largest destination; during the 1930's shipments to America fluctuated between 5 mill. lbs. (1937-38) and 75 mill. lbs. (1936-37) but during the war they rose to over 300 mill. lbs. a year. Their value in 1949-50, £44 mill., was equivalent to 13% of total exports. Shipments to Canada also rose in 1949-50. Purchases by France in 1949-50 fell back from the high level of the early post-war period to near the pre-war average, and Italy, Sweden and Switzerland also bought less than in 1948-49. Quantities shipped to Germany and Italy were considerably above the average of the immediate pre-war period and shipments to Japan are also rising again although still only a fraction of the exports of the early thirties. Wool exports to the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia in 1949-50 aggregated 9% of the total value and were slightly higher than in 1948-49.

WOOL EXPORTS - Australia.

	Mill. lbs. as in Grease xx			Value in £million			
	Yearly Average 1936/37-38/39	Year ended August		Yearly Average 1936/37-38/39	Year ended August		
		1949	1950		1948	1949	1950
United Kingdom ^ø	369	506	497	20.6	53.5	85.7	117.4
United States	33	80	165	2.9	27.8	18.6	44.2
France	138	245	140	6.7	27.4	38.5	34.5
Belgium	117	120	143	5.9	16.0	16.1	26.1
Italy	30	123	84	1.9	8.6	22.8	18.6
Germany	49	25	60	3.2	4.0	5.3	15.3
Soviet Russia	.	35	38	.	5.8	9.3	13.1
Poland	13	32	32	.8	1.4	7.8	11.5
Japan	76	22	56	5.1	1.8	4.2	13.9
Other Countries	70	115	140	3.7	19.4	22.5	30.5
Total	895	1303	1355	50.8	165.7	230.8	325.1
Average price per lb. greasy, Australia				13.1d.	39.5d.	48.1d.	63.4d.

^ø Includes shipments ex store of J.O. stocks, £3.3m. in 1947-48, £15.4m. in 1948-49 and £11m. in 1949-50.

xx. Scoured wool, tops, noils and waste etc. converted at the rate of 1 to 2 into greasy wool.